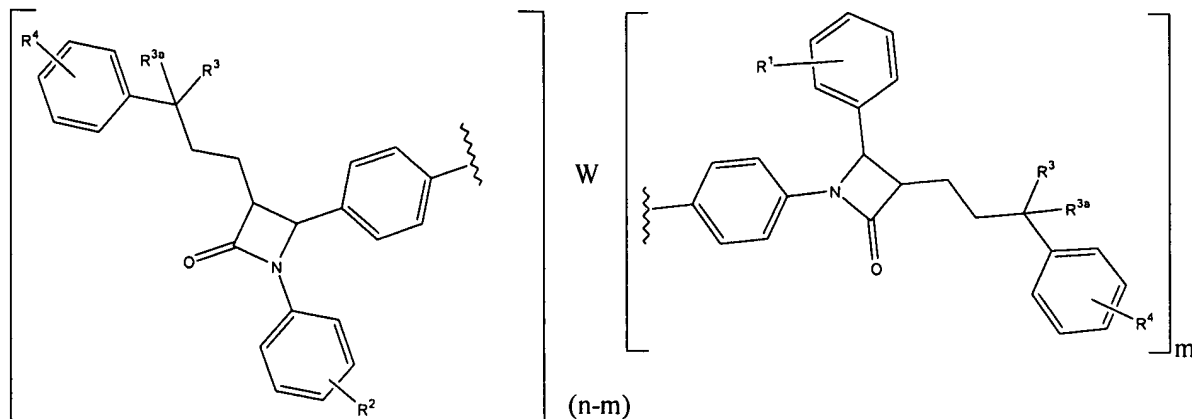


CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (original) A compound of formula



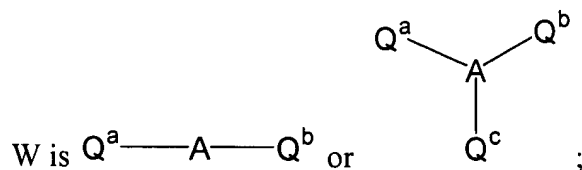
wherein

R^1 and R^2 are chosen from H, halogen, -OH, loweralkyl, -O-loweralkyl, -CN, -S-loweralkyl, amino, lower alkylamino, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, acyl, a sugar, a glucuronide and a sugar carbamate;

R^3 is chosen from H, -OH, fluoro and -O-loweralkyl;

R^{3a} is chosen from H and fluoro, or R^{3a} and R^3 together are =O;

R^4 is chosen from H, halogen, -OH, loweralkyl, -O-loweralkyl, -CN, -S-loweralkyl, amino, lower alkylamino, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl and acyl;



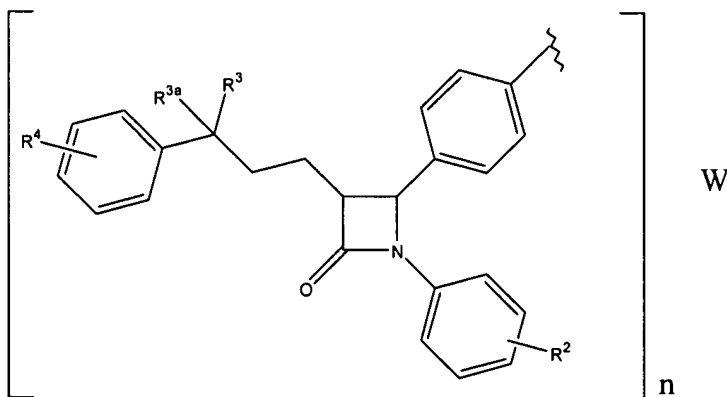
Q^a , Q^b and Q^c are independently chosen from a direct bond, -O-, -S-, -NH-, -CH₂O-, -CH₂NH-, -OCH₂CONH-, -OCH₂COO-, -C(=O)-, -CONH-, -NHCO-, -O(C=O)-, -(C=O)O-, -NHCONH-, -OCONH- and -NHCOO-;

n is 2 or 3;

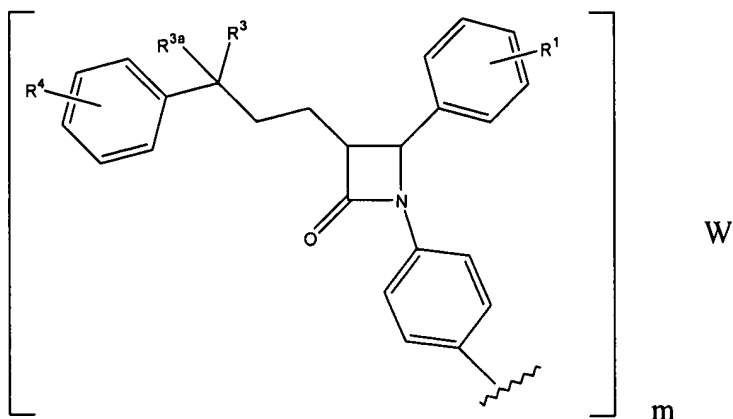
m is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and $m = n$; and

A has a valency of n and is chosen from C₂ to C₂₀ hydrocarbon, substituted alkyl of 2 to 20 carbons, perfluoroalkyl of 2 to 20 carbons, substituted aryl, polyaryl of 3 to 20 aryl groups, substituted arylalkyl, oxaalkyl of four to fifty carbons, azaalkyl of four to fifty carbons, thiaalkyl of four to fifty carbons, a residue of an oligopeptide of two to twenty amino acids, a residue of a monosaccharide or of a polysaccharide of 2 to 100 saccharide residues; and, when Q^a and Q^b are -O(C=O)- or -NHCO-, A may additionally be methylene.

2. (original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein m = zero of formula:



3. (original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein $m=n$ of formula:



4. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein n is 3 and W is trivalent.

5. (original) A compound according to claim 4 wherein

Q^a , Q^b and Q^c are independently chosen from -O-, -CH₂O-, -OCH₂CONH-, -OCH₂COO-, -(C=O)O-, and -NHCOO-; and

A is a polysaccharide of 2 to 20 saccharide residues, a branched oxaalkyl of four to fifty carbons or a monoazaalkyl of four to ten carbons.

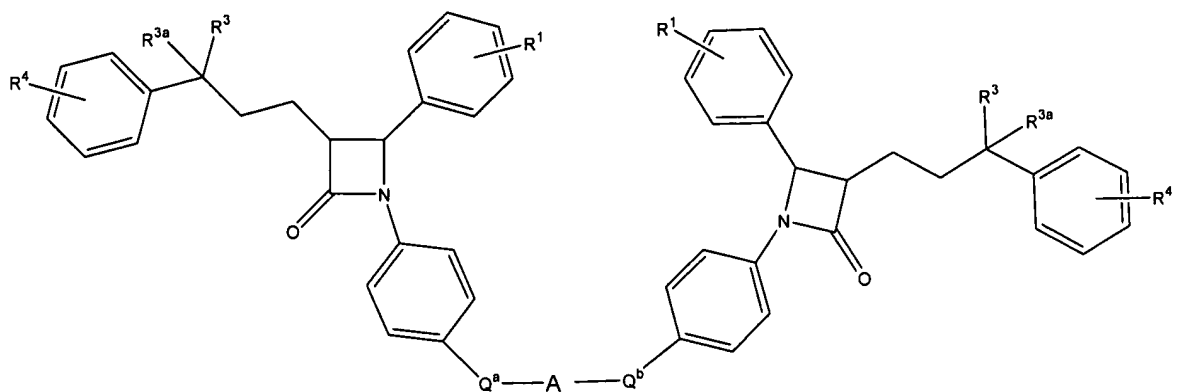
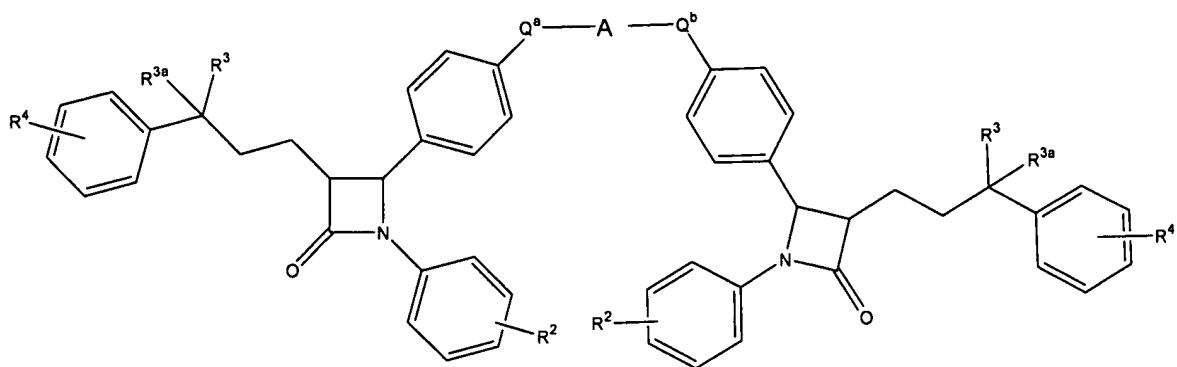
6. (original) A compound according to claim 4 wherein

Q^a , Q^b and Q^c are independently chosen from -CH₂O-, -CH₂NH-, -OCH₂CONH-, -OCH₂COO-, -CONH-, -NHCO-, -O(C=O)-, -(C=O)O-, -NHCONH-, -OCONH- and -NHCOO-;

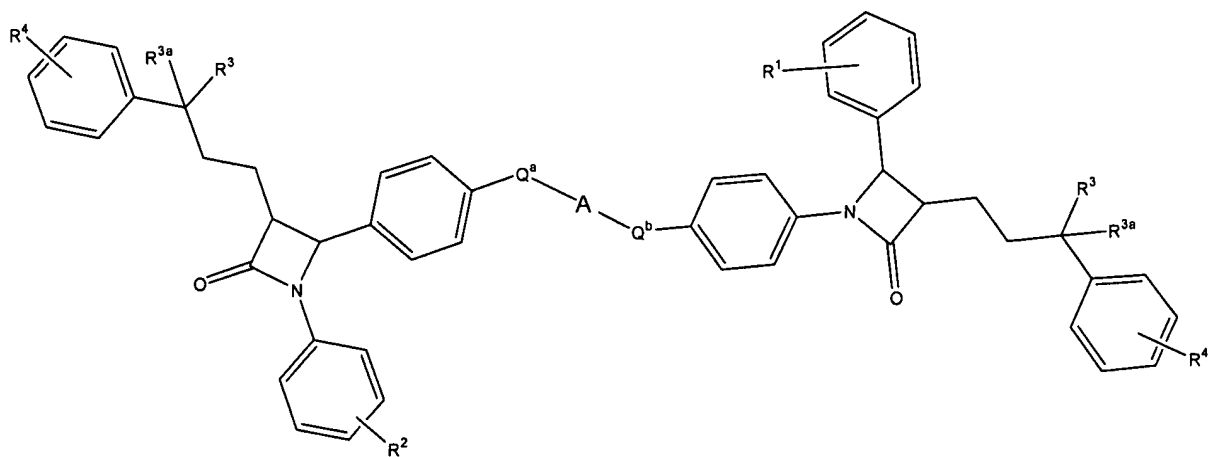
and

A is an oligopeptide.

7. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein n is 2 and W is divalent of formula:



or



8. (original) A compound according to claim 7 wherein

Q^a and Q^b are independently chosen from -O-, -CH₂O-, -OCH₂CONH-, -OCH₂COO-, -(C=O)O-, and -NHCOO-; and

A is poly(oxyethylene) or a polysaccharide of 2 to 20 saccharide residues.

9. (original) A compound according to claim 7 wherein

Q^a and Q^b are independently chosen -CH₂O-, -CH₂NH-, -OCH₂CONH-, -OCH₂COO-, -CONH-, -NHCO-, -O(C=O)-, -(C=O)O-, -NHCONH-, -OCONH- and -NHCOO-;

and

A is an oligopeptide.

10. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1-9~~ claim 1 wherein

R^1 and R^2 are chosen from H, halogen, -OH, and methoxy;

R^3 is -OH; and

R^4 is fluoro.

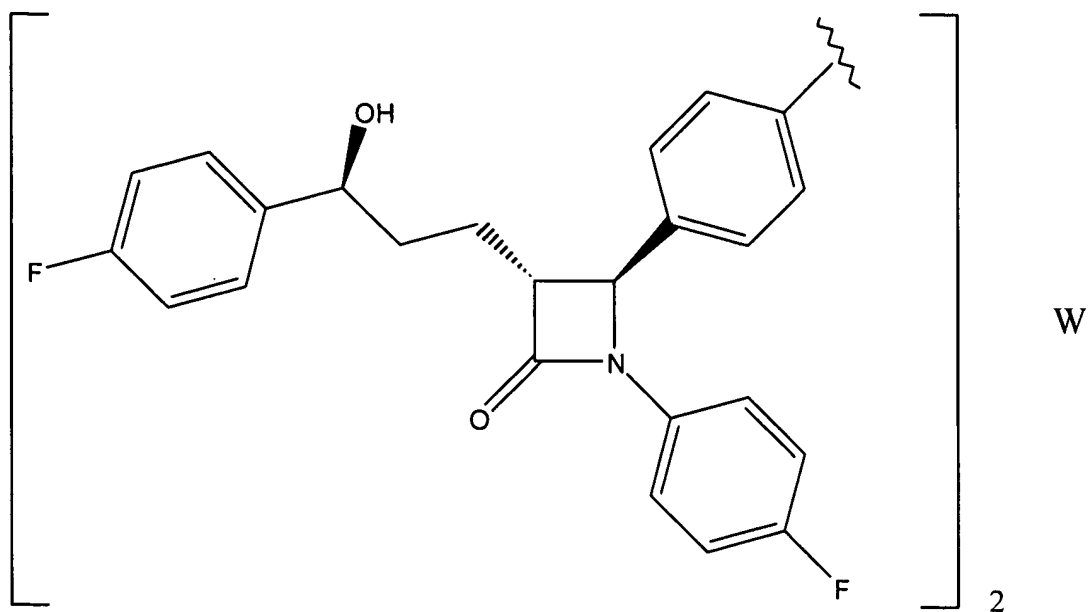
11. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1-9~~ claim 1 wherein

R^1 and R^2 are chosen from a sugar, a glucuronide and a sugar carbamate;

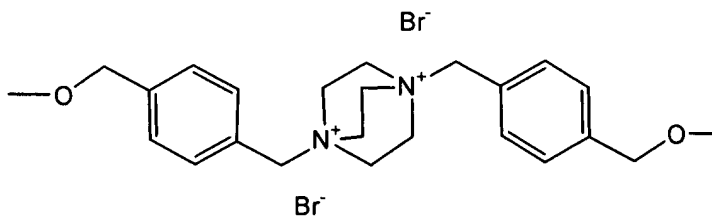
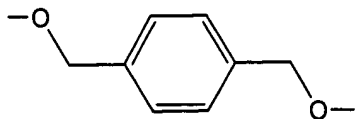
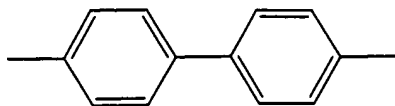
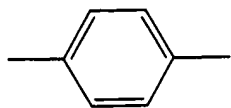
R^3 is -OH; and

R^4 is fluoro.

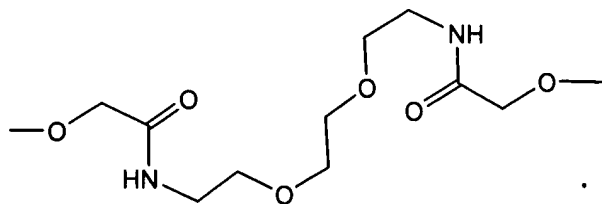
12. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1-10~~ claim 1 of formula:



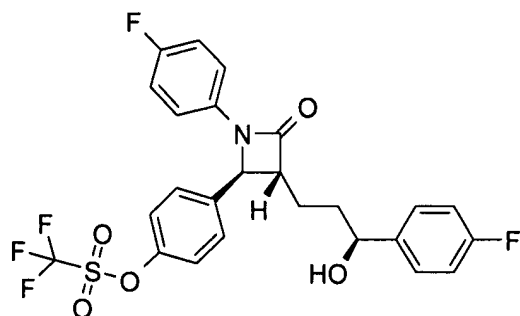
13. (original) A compound according to claim 12 wherein W is chosen from
-OCH₂CH=CHCH₂O- ,



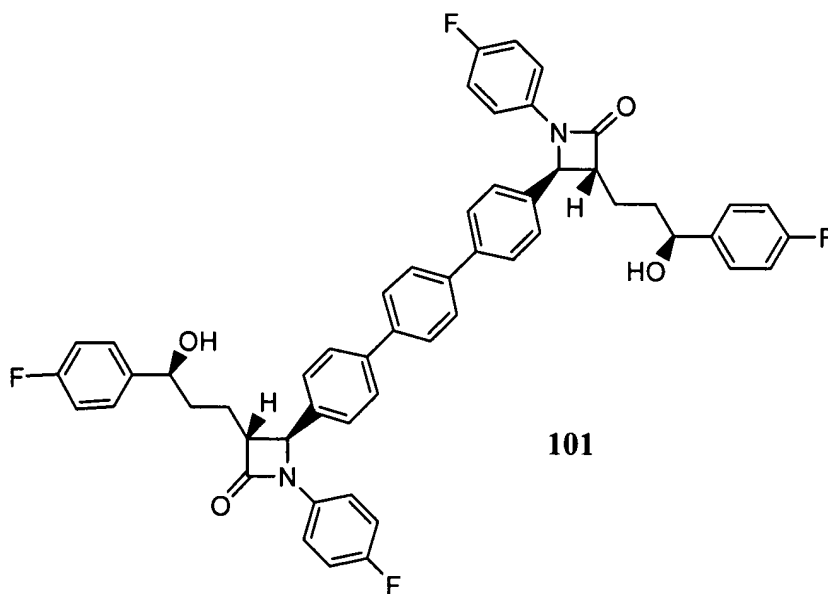
and



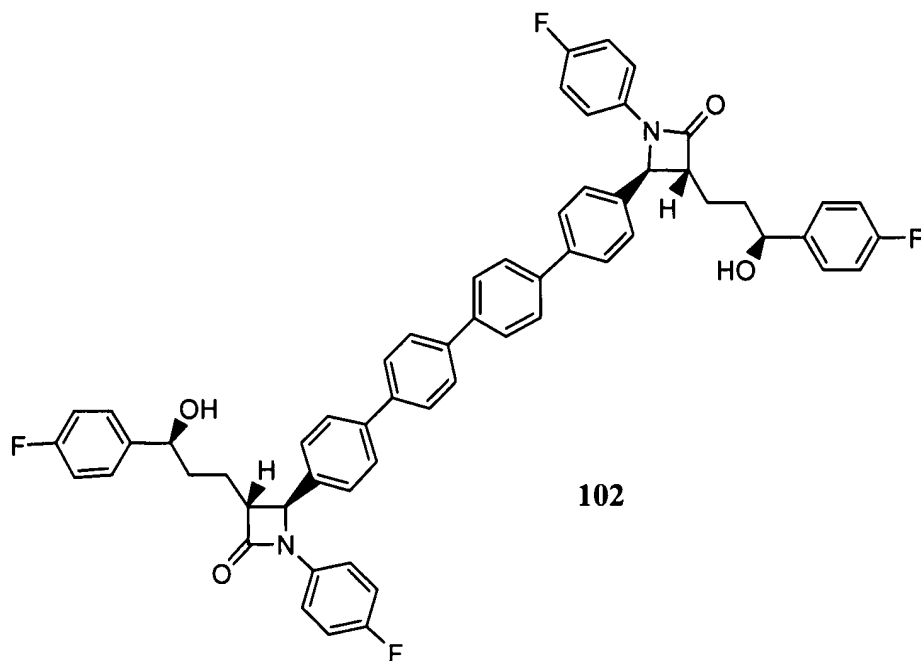
14. (original) A compound according to claim 1 chosen from the group consisting of



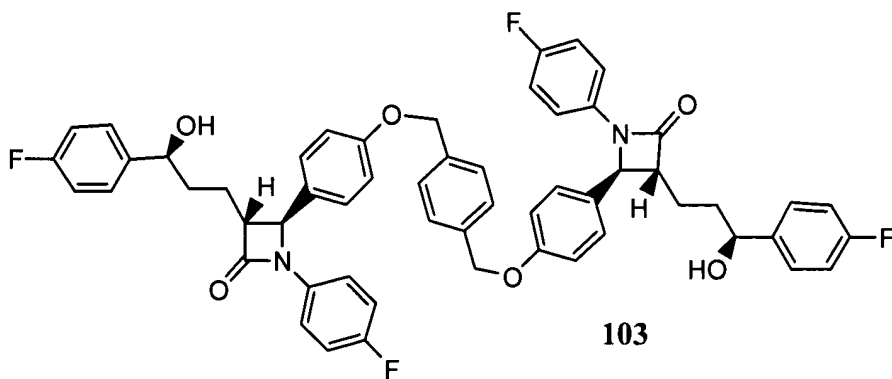
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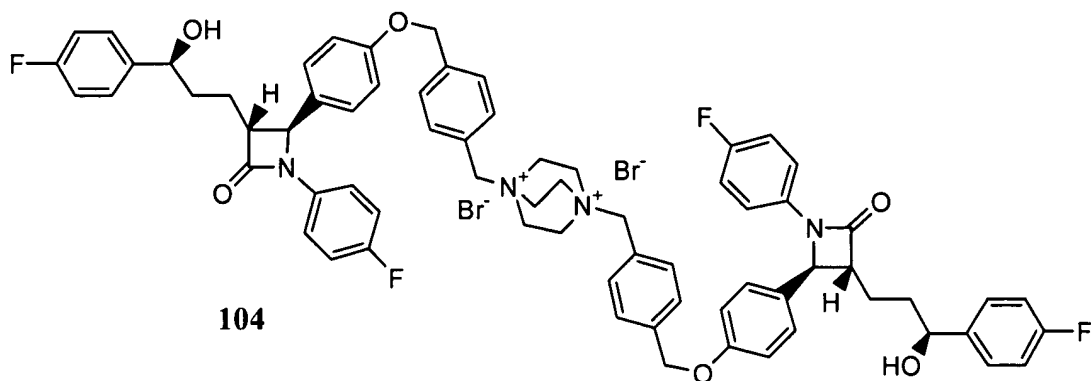
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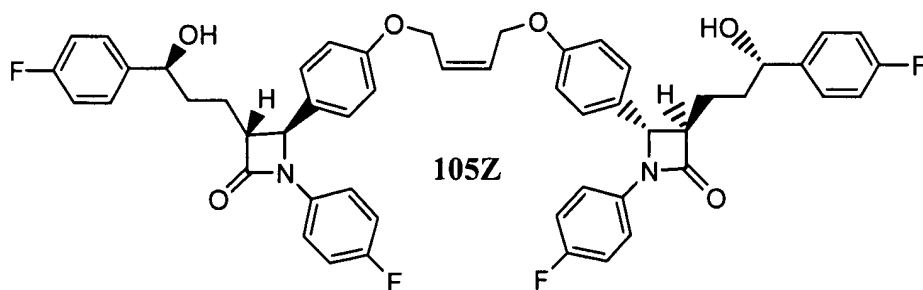
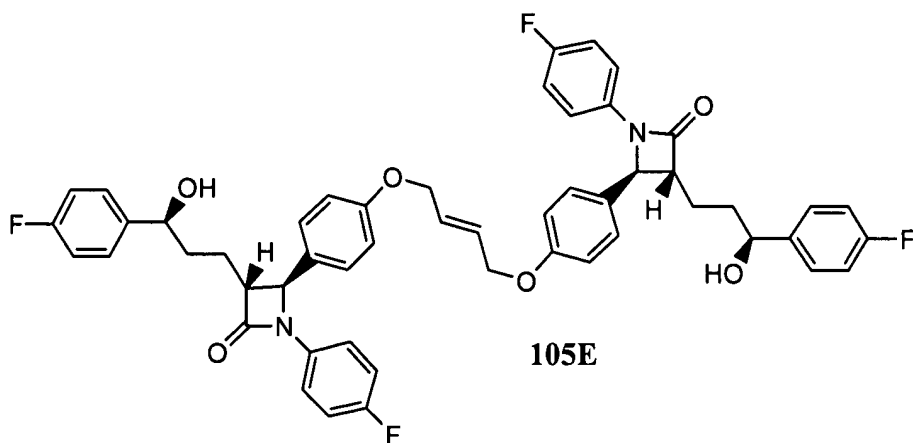
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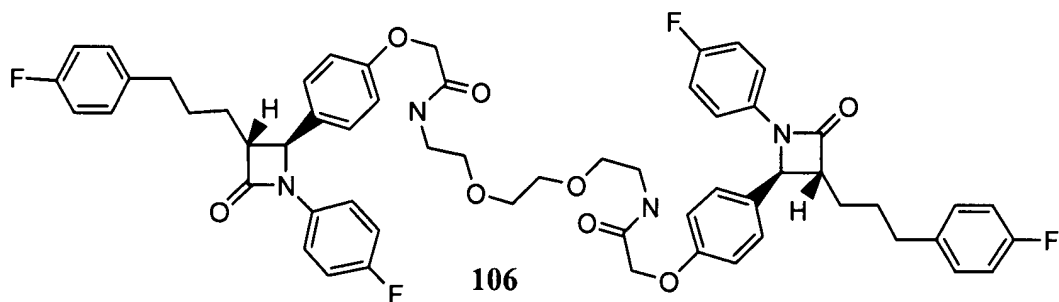
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and



15. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to ~~any of claims 1-14~~ claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. (original) A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 15 additionally comprising an inhibitor of cholesterol biosynthesis.

17. (currently amended) A method for treating a disorder of lipid metabolism comprising administering a to a mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any of claims 1-14~~ claim 1.

18. (original) A method according to claim 17, wherein said disorder of lipid metabolism is hyperlipidemia.

19. (original) A method according to claim 17, wherein said disorder of lipid metabolism is arteriosclerosis.

20. (currently amended) A method for inhibiting the absorption of cholesterol from the intestine of a mammal, which comprises administering an effective cholesterol-absorption-inhibiting amount of a compound according to ~~any of claims 1-14~~ claim 1 to the mammal.

21. – 30. (canceled)